

UNIONS TO CONFER ON WAGE LIFT BILL

Organized Labor Leaders Will Fight to Remove Any Obstacles.

RADICAL BOARD UNLIKELY

H. M. McLarin Places Probable Maximum Increase at 15 Per Cent.

A conference of delegates from all the labor unions in the city has been called for Wednesday evening to take action on the bill which soon will come before the Senate regarding the proposed wage increase of Federal employees.

The meeting will be held at 8 o'clock in the American Federation of Labor Building, Massachusetts avenue and Ninth street.

Each union in the District will send three delegates. In the absence of President Samuel Gompers, who is chairman of the conference, Vice Chairman Green will preside.

H. M. McLarin, head of the Federal Employees' Union of the District, said today that the outlook for an increase of 10 and 20 per cent of the clerks' wage scale by the Senate was not all favorable.

A canvass of the Senators who have remained in the city over the holidays is being made with a view to getting the desired increase, but Mr. McLarin declared that prospects indicate a probable maximum of 15 per cent, instead of the 20 per cent desired.

EXPECT SALARY INCREASE

Action of Appropriation Committee Perhaps Favorable to Clerks.

Opinion grows in the Senate that the clerks and employees of the Government, including District employees, will be given a liberal increase of pay by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

This will be done in connection with the legislative bill, covering most of the Government employees, and in the District bill, covering the District employees.

Senator Martin, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, who will have much to do with the legislation, is in Virginia for the holidays. Good reason exists, however, for believing he will favor an increase.

Senator John Walter Smith, chairman of the subcommittee which will frame the District bill, is also home for the holidays. He is expected to favor an increase for District employees if other Government employees are increased.

January 2 is the date for beginning hearings on the legislative bill in subcommittee. The hearings will be brief and confined to pertinent matter. Representatives of clerks and employees will be heard.

RIVAL FOR FLIVVER

Pedmobile Appears in F Street and Traffic Cop Gapes.

The flivver has a rival. Whether Santa Claus brought it has not been disclosed, but it's here.

The few F street pedestrians who were out this morning saw it. The traffic policeman saw it. In the act of motioning for a car to proceed he stopped, open mouthed, waved to the motorman to wait, and allowed the contraption to pass.

Washingtonians have seen them depicted in Sunday newspaper supplements and the "ads." They have seen one or two in the moving pictures, and travelers from Atlantic City have the curious one that they live there, and frequent the board walk.

But as for an actual, live-and-kicking one, it has up to this time been a thing unknown on the streets of the dignified Capital of the United States. The "thing" is nothing more nor less than an autoped. With a compact little motor, which drives the rubber tired front wheel, the contraption is made to carry one passenger, who stands on a little running board, and controls the machine with a steering gear fitted with a cross-bar.

"Just get on it and away you go," said one person, evidently familiar with the new vehicle.

Perhaps it won't be long before the streets will be filled with a long line of autopedes carrying their passengers, women shoppers, business men, messenger boys, and school girls.

SIX KILLED ON XMAS

Automobile and Fire Accidents Take Toll in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Six persons lost their lives on Christmas Day in automobile and fire accidents in and around New York.

Oliver Buckley, eighty-one, and Frank H. Welch, his guest at Christmas dinner were burned to death when the Buckley home was destroyed by fire. The former rushed into the flames in an effort to save a pet dog.

Three men were killed in New York automobile accidents. Adolph Gulle and his son, Walter, were thrown from their car when it was struck by a train at Sayville, L. I., and died shortly afterwards.

Frederick Johnson, of Syracuse, was killed when a friend's automobile overturned at Boonville, N. J. Frank De Witt, of East Orange, N. J., was thrown beneath the wheels of a truck and killed.

THANKS FOR TURKEYS

Resolutions expressing appreciation of Christmas turkeys presented by Col. A. E. Randle, president of the East Washington Heights Traction Company, were adopted by motormen and conductors of the company today. Presentation of turkeys to employees at Christmas has been the custom of the company since the organization of the road.

DOG A DRUNKARD

COLUMBUS, Ind., Dec. 26.—George Mitchell, of the Kitzinger Bakery Company, made application to Mayor H. Karl Vollard for an order on the saloonkeepers of the city not to give him dogs. Boose, any intoxicating liquors Mitchell explained to the mayor that "they spent all of his time in the

FOUND DEAD IN HIS ROOM

Frank Sandy Suffocated by Illuminating Gas.

Frank Sandy, aged fifty-one, a boarder at 1505 Twelfth street northwest, was found dead in his room last night from the effects of illuminating gas.

Miss Mary Smith and Mrs. Sydel Tenney, other occupants of the house, noticed the odor of gas emanating from Sandy's room this morning. Upon discovering his condition, the woman notified the police, but Dr. Cousins of Emergency Hospital, who accompanied the ambulance to the house, said that the man had been dead several hours. Coroner Nevitt issued a certificate of suicide.

Sandy had been ill for several weeks, it was said at his address.

WHITTAKER FAILED TO GET \$20 LOAN

But He Did Get \$20 Worth of Good Advice From His Congressman.

There's a certain fellow in a whisky producing State who whittled and whittled in the hope of getting \$20 for the figures he carved from wood—and who failed. Here's the story:

A member of the House received a sort of Christmas offering of a quart bottle of whisky. On close examination he found something besides whisky in the bottle. The whittling constituent had placed therein artfully carved figures of men, women, iron crosses, and a few other things. Necessarily they were small, but admittedly they were artistic.

In the mail there came a letter from the constituent. He hoped his Congressman would enjoy the liquor and also admire the carved figures so deftly placed in the sealed bottle.

P. S.—Would the Congressman lend him \$20?

The reply sent back by the member was substantially as follows:

"My Dear Sir: I have received the bottle of whisky, and also found therein the carved figures. I note also your request for a \$20 loan. If you had spent half as much time in work as you must have in whittling you would have made \$20. Yours truly, etc."

Which constitutes quite a correspondence course, some members who have heard the story think.

SAVED 700, IS HONORED

Former Mauretania Officer Rescued All When Ships Crashed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Commander Samuel J. McNeill, of the British auxiliary cruiser Reindeer, who was well known to American travelers as the staff captain of the Cunard Mauretania, has been commended by the admiralty for his skill and seamanship in saving the lives of 700 soldiers after a collision in the English Channel recently.

The Reindeer, which is a new turbine steamship with a speed of twenty-two knots, was steaming up the channel without lights and ran into a troopship bound from Southampton to Havre. In spite of the rough sea, Commander McNeill lowered his boats and lifeboats and with the aid of some boats from the sinking transport managed to save every man on board before she went under.

The hero of the Reindeer was stove in up to the forward bulkhead, but by lowering heavy canvas sails over the gap the commander managed to make the harbor safely by steaming stern first.

KILLED FOR THEIR GOLD

Three Persons Dead and Two Are Injured Seriously.

MINDEN, La., Dec. 25.—Lust for \$4,000 that John Nelson Reeves, aged sixty-eight, a farmer residing near here, was said to be boarding in a tool chest in his home, is believed to have been the motive that inspired the murder of Reeves and his wife, the fatal wounding of their oldest son and the probable fatal injury of two other children, one aged five and one a babe of fifteen months, by two men whose identity has not been learned. The slayer used an ax and pistol.

The wounded children were hurried to Shreveport for treatment. The oldest one, whose skull was fractured by blows with an ax, died on reaching the sanitarium there. Physicians say the two others cannot recover.

Three negroes have been brought to court and jailed, suspected of being implicated in the wholesale murder. The tool chest bank was broken into and if it contained the money reported, the slayers took every penny.

THROWS OPEN JAIL

North Carolina Governor Gives Convicts Freedom for Day.

RALPHIGH, N. C., Dec. 25.—Twenty-nine hundred prisoners in State and county jails yesterday took the first of their three holidays for the week, and only one declined the parole home. All trustees were allowed without surveillance to spend Christmas at their homes. John Sinclair, the solitary prisoner remaining within the walls, declared he would serve out his sentence before going home.

Six hundred and fifteen of them carried \$10 checks home to their relatives, contributions made at the instance of Governor Craig, who ordered the holiday for the second time. The governor announced that he is personally responsible for the contribution, and if the State will not authorize the donation made without warrant he will refund it.

ENDS 3-YEAR CONTEMPT TERM

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 26.—Christian Liberman, an aged resident of McKeesport, Pa., has been released from jail here after serving almost three years for contempt of court.

Liberman's house stood on ground which the county authorities decided should have been occupied by a road. He refused to move it on the ground that to do so would "violate his conscience."

Recently it was decided to have the county move the house. The work was commenced yesterday and Liberman

SOUTH AFRICANS SCORN PEACE TALK

Business Men Favor Exclusion of All German Products From the Union After War.

EASTERN MAN-HUNT ENDING

Guns From Sunken Koenigsburg and Pegasus Pitted Against One Another.

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 26.—The agitation for peace which reports indicate is growing in the United States is causing some surprise here. It is assumed that it is either another manifestation of the German propaganda or a deplorably ill-advised movement on the part of well-meaning persons, who have no realization of the implacable resolution of the British empire in all its component parts to fight to the finish the war thrust upon it. This is a matter that does not rest with Westminster. It is an empire question that will be decided in a council in which the dominions that have poured out their blood and treasure will have full voice. Here, no less than in Australia and New Zealand, the determination is that Hohenzollernism shall be crushed utterly and eliminated for good, no matter how long the process may take, nor what its cost may be.

It is not doubted here that one of the outcomes of the war will be complete revolution in the fiscal system of the United Kingdom, to the further undoing of Germany. It is pointed out that in Manchester, the stronghold of free trade, the Chamber of Commerce has gone back upon that policy, and that the equally conservative Chambers of Commerce of London, Liverpool, and other centers have done the same. Their course is hailed with intense satisfaction in commercial circles here, as is reflected in views expressed at the nineteenth annual congress of Commerce of South Africa held recently in Cape Town.

Prohibitive Tariff Likely. It was pointed out that in the past Germany had been permitted to get the control or monopoly of various industries in British possessions. As industries in British possessions prior to the war a great many of its imports came from Germany, made up principally of chemicals, machinery, and cotton goods. The shutting off of this source of supply has had little or no effect upon conditions, but it has promoted a tendency to develop local industries, and there can be little doubt that the sentiment in favor of the exclusion of all German products after the war will take concrete form in a prohibitive tariff.

Meanwhile, the campaign in German East Africa is drawing to its conclusion. It has been found that the jungle country in the basin of the Rufiji river and its great tributaries, in which fever and malaria ridden regions the German forces were stalled, is impracticable for cavalry movements, aside from the fact that the mortality among the horses is excessive. Therefore the bulk of the Second Mounted Brigade under Maj. Gen. J. J. Brito, who has rendered brilliant service in the round up, is coming back to the Union.

Prisoners affirm that it is the intention of the German commander, General von Lettow, to endeavor to escape with his staff into Portuguese territory and make their way to an unascertained point on the coast, where arrangements have been made for a vessel to pick them up and put to open sea regardless of the British blockade.

River a Haven. Apropos of the Rufiji, it was in this river that the German cruiser Koenigsburg, that had sunk the British cruiser Pegasus while she was at anchor and undergoing repairs off Zanzibar on September 21, 1914, was destroyed on July 14, 1915, by British warships. The wreck of the Koenigsburg has been examined and shows that all her guns were salvaged. It is a curious and interesting fact that throughout the land campaign the guns of the Koenigsburg and those saved from the Pegasus have been pitted against one another. Several of the German cruiser's weapons have been captured.

What the troops of the empire have to endure in this swift, silent man-hunt through the vast spaces of this African jungle land is told with rarely graphic pen in a letter to a friend in Cape Town from the chaplain of a South African regiment.

"We have marched," he writes, "some 240 miles, and that through the least-known country in the world; our eyes have been opened at night on moonlight over the rolling plains of rich, luscious grasses, or we have crawled, at snail's pace, Indian fashion, through the thick, trailing undergrowth of primeval forests, over rocks, unbroken before, save by the roots of lions or other beasts of the forest. These are memories one shall love to recall. Others are not so pleasant.

"The vision of brave fellows struggling painfully onward through the heavy sand, grimy with the clouds of dust stirred up by the myriad feet of men and mules and wheels—dust which turned to mud when it touched the clothes or skin bathed in perspiration—plodding wearily onward, silently, without mirth, for every ounce of energy has to be devoted and every thought concentrated on this one grim task of getting forward. And when the blistered feet and the fever-raged strength refuse to make any further response to the commands of the will, and the brave fellows drop out by the roadside, the hopeless, appealing look on the face will be difficult to efface from the memory."

"But even here the gloom is not unrelieved, for time and again one could see men shouldering the rifles or equipment of their exhausted comrades. The ranks have been greatly thinned by fever, but this fever is not deadly, and a three week rest with more care and judicious doses of quinine, soon restores the patient to health."

"For the past five weeks of our

of the struggle with natural conditions, some rather a rather, the fatigue and exhaustion of marching, exposure to the scorching rays of the sun by day, or the quite considerable cold of the nights. The enemy kept constantly retreating in front of our marching columns and caused us but little anxiety."

ALEXANDRIA POSTAL BUSINESS GROWING

Office Handles One-third More Mail Matter Than During Previous Holidays.

ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 26.—Postmaster Smith reports an increase in parcel post matter of approximately one-third over other years. Mails of all classes have been the largest in the history of the local office. Extra clerks and carriers were secured, however, and both incoming and outgoing mails were dispatched promptly.

The Rev. E. T. Kirkley, pastor of the Methodist Protestant Church, and Miss Flora E. Glasgow, both of this city, were married yesterday by the Rev. A. C. Compton, pastor of the First Methodist Protestant Church, of Washington.

Gus Kraus, aged thirty-nine, a resident of Brooklyn, died at the Alexandria Hospital yesterday.

Members of the Old Dominion Commandery, No. 11, Knights Templar, met at noon yesterday in their assembly hall at the Alexandria Hotel for the grand commander of that organization of the United States, in accordance with their annual custom.

Midshipman Ferguson B. Bryan is the guest of his father, Capt. and Mrs. Albert Bryan, over the holidays.

Dr. M. W. O'Brien, one of the well-known physicians of the city, is ill at his home on Cameron street.

A suit for divorce was instituted in the circuit court in this city today by Edna F. Roy against Rodolph G. Roy. Edward L. Gies and Amos C. Crouse are counsel for the plaintiff.

CHANGES MILITARY TACTICS

France Instructing Soldiers in New Methods for Future Use.

WITH THE FRENCH INFANTRY SCHOOL AT—No less than France learned the lesson of "preparedness" in the last two years, although still engaged in the greatest military struggle of her history, she is finding both the time and genius necessary to reorganize, drill, and instruct the entire infantry portion of her army in the new arms and tactics which the present war has demonstrated will characterize "tomorrow."

Should the present war, by some almost incredible combination of circumstances, be followed within six months by another, it would find France, as a result of her present foresight and "preparedness," in the possession of a more fully drilled, equipped and organized in all of the paraphernalia and tactics of what the best military authorities of Europe concede will be the basis on which future wars will be fought. This army, too, would be all provided with the only one in Europe ready to such a degree for the emergency—should it come.

Military Preparedness. The change which Europe is now effecting in her infantry—while that same infantry is already engaged in a life and death struggle—is one of the most remarkable feats of military preparation the war has produced. It is vastly different and vastly more difficult in accomplishment than that of France's earlier artillery problem. When the first few months of the present struggle demonstrated the success was going to depend largely on superiority in heavy artillery, France faced a complete lack of the latter. The solving of this problem, however, was largely one of producing a larger gun which her already existing artillery corps were quite capable of handling, and handling effectively, without changing their existing basis of military education.

When later, however, the war developed into infantry armed merely with rifles and bayonets is no longer effective, France faced the problem not only of producing entirely new kinds of arms for the infantry, but of obliging the men to forget all that had been taught them in their past years of military training, both as to the use of arms and as to infantry tactics. Yet, this is what France is now successfully doing.

Has Infantry Schools. To accomplish this end of "preparedness" France has established infantry schools at various points back of her front. As fast as possible, regiments that have been fighting at Verdun, on the Somme, and elsewhere with the old infantry arms and tactics and drwn back and given a few weeks' instructions in these schools. When they return to the front, they take up the new method and the old warfare, which are already conceded to constitute the basis of the "warfare of tomorrow."

In the new French infantry, the old-time rifle has disappeared to a large extent, or is retained merely to be used with the bayonet. Instead, the new infantry company finds itself composed of classes of specialists, each man selected for his special fitness, the use of the new and more effective arms which the present war has developed.

MILLION FOR WAR SUFFERERS.

The officers of the central relief committee, one of three agencies responsible for raising several million dollars for the aid of Hebrews suffering in the war zone, announces the collection of \$1,515,359.38. This announcement is made on the eve of what bids fair to be a strenuous campaign to raise \$10,000,000 in 1917.

HANGS HIMSELF IN LOBBY.

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 26.—With a cord taken from another man's Christmas package, Gus Nelson, aged fifty-five, hanged himself early Christmas Day in the lobby of a hotel here, while five men stood by waiting for the police. He told them he was dissatisfied because he was alone on

POPULAR OPINION BASIS OF AWARD

Directors of Corcoran Art Gallery Allow Public to Name Best Picture.

PRIZE OFFERED OF \$200

Unique Plan to Ascertain if Popular Coincides With Artistic Taste.

How fine is the public taste in art? The directors of the Corcoran Art gallery will pay \$200 to ascertain. The money will go to the modern American artist who has secured popular taste as to the able to paint the most popular picture in the exhibition of 400 paintings of contemporary American artists which will be thrown open to the public the week of January 4. The selection of the prize winner is to be made by a vote of the visitors to the galleries.

Public Balloting. A ballot will be given every visitor to the gallery during the week of January 4. The visitor will be asked to write on the ballot the name of the picture judged to be the best. The ballot will be placed in a sealed box and at the close of the exhibition a committee of prominent Washingtonians who have no connection with the gallery or art circles, will be asked to count the ballots and make the award. The check for \$200 will be forwarded to the winning artist as soon as the announcement is made.

Novel Plan. This is the first time in the history of the gallery, it is stated, that an attempt has been made to gauge popular taste in art.

An artist's opinion of a picture is based upon a different set of values from those of the public, and it is the determination of the directors of the art gallery to make a serious effort to find out what the public likes best in art galleries. The unique method has been adopted has attracted considerable attention throughout the country, and the result of the ballots will be made the basis for similar experiments elsewhere.

KILLS BOY WITH GIFT RIFLE

Baltimore Lad Held, Although It Is Thought to Be Accident.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—With a bullet from a Christmas gift rifle in his brain, Thomas F. Hogan, fifteen years old, died last night in Franklin Square Hospital, and Stephen Suwalski, aged sixteen, who shot him, spent his Christmas in a court at Northwestern police station. The police believe the shooting was an accident, but Suwalski was locked up on a charge of assaulting and shooting Hogan.

Suwalski said he was on the back porch of his home, 1801 Singletree avenue, shooting at bottles and tin cans with his rifle, and that Hogan, with an air rifle he had received for Christmas, was on a hill behind the house. Hogan, he said, pointed the rifle at him, and he in turn aimed his gun at Hogan. It was all "in fun," he said.

DYING ALONE FROM HUNGER

Recluse, Once Wealthy, Found Starving on Christmas.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 26.—Christmas carried little cheer to Michael Quick, a former wealthy resident of this city, who was found dying from starvation in one of the most prosperous industrial sections of the world, in this city.

Quick, since the death of his wife, twenty-two years ago, has been living the life of a recluse in a small house at 611 Brownsville avenue. He was often referred to as the "most notorious old gentleman" in the neighborhood, but rarely ever spoke to any one, unless first addressed.

He has for some time refused all offers of aid, and it was believed that he had a little money until he was found today in an emaciated condition, dying from hunger.

FLARE AT POWDER PLANT

Illumination at Carney's Point Visible for Many Miles.

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 26.—A big flare occurred at the Carney Powder works of the Du Pont Powder Company at 11:40 o'clock last night.

It took place in the company's No. 2 plant, about one mile from the main office, according to a telephone message from Carney Point, but particulars are lacking further than that the flare was extensive.

The illumination was seen for many miles around and inquiries poured into this city and Pennsylvania from all sections.

Don't Suffer

Send For Free Trial Treatment. No matter how long or how bad—go to your druggist today and get a 50 cent box of Pyramid File Treatment.

The Pyramid Smile From a Single Trial. It will give relief, and a single box often cures. A trial package mailed free in plain wrapper if you send us coupon below.—Advt.

FREE SAMPLE COUPON

PYRAMID FILE COMPANY. 331 Pyramid Bldg., Marshall, Mich. Kindly send me a Free sample of Pyramid File Treatment, in plain wrapper.

Name..... Street..... City..... State.....

INQUEST OVER BOY'S DEATH

Will Fix Blame for Killing of Colored Lad by Automobile.

An inquest will be held this afternoon to fix the responsibility for the death of the seven-year-old colored lad killed by an automobile at Ninth and H streets yesterday.

The boy was identified today as Thomas Pinkney, who lived at 1316 G street northeast.

Identification was made by the boy's uncle at Casualty Hospital. The boy was well dressed, but nothing was found on his clothing which would lead to identification.

Persons who saw the accident say the boy ran in front of the automobile and the driver applied the brakes, but was unable to stop the machine.

"MAIL EARLY" WON EFFECTIVE RESULTS

Postmaster Chance Declares Campaign Beneficial to Both Public and Department.

"The Postoffice Department probably would have been swamped had it not been for the hearty co-operation of the people of Washington with the department in the mail early campaign," Postmaster Merritt O. Chance stated today.

In former years about two days before Christmas, a flood of mail was turned loose on us, and delay was unavoidable. This year, the circulars that were distributed by the department were read and observed. As a result of the campaign the outgoing mail was practically disposed of two days before Christmas.

"The employees of the department deserve all the nice things that have been said of them. An instance of their loyalty to the department is evinced by the action of the carriers on Sunday. The men were not called out, but of their own accord 90 per cent reported for work Sunday morning at 6 o'clock, knowing that they would receive no compensation.

The clerks also strove valiantly to check the inundation that seemed imminent. Many of the clerks volunteered their services as carriers after their work for the day was finished."

Mails have resumed their normal status. The congestion of mail throughout the country gives the postal authorities here no concern, as they are confident that it will be adjusted without delay.

SANTAS VISIT BEUTINGERS

Jurors Call at Home of Women They Voted to Acquit.

CALDWELL, N. J., Dec. 26.—Twenty-two Santa Clauses, all in a bunch, visited the home of Mrs. Clara Beutinger and her five little youngsters, and they're all mighty happy today, including the Santa Clauses.

The Kris Kringle was the twenty-two of the twenty-four jurors who voted to acquit Mrs. Beutinger of the murder of her husband at her two recent trials.

The party was as much of a surprise to Mrs. Beutinger as it was to the children.

The Santa Clauses, who were dressed in the traditional red and white, and who carried bags of goodies, were welcomed by the children and the mother.

TARS HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

Thousands From Atlantic Fleet Given Shore Leave.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Thousands of Uncle Sam's sailor boys are ashore on leave from the battleships of the Atlantic fleet here for the holidays. The fleet will remain here until January 10. Admiral Henry T. Mayo passed as many of the boys as possible, and those remaining aboard the dreadnaughts Pennsylvania, Arizona, New York, and Wyoming and the submarines, cutters, destroyers, and tenders were well taken care of as to turkey, etc. There was a Christmas tree at night in the main room of every ship.

BABY STRANGLES IN CRIB

Head Caught Between Bars as It Tossed in Sleep.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—Tossing about in his sleep Saturday night, William Whealen, nine months old, was strangled to death when his head caught between the bars of his crib at his home, 3515 Pilecki avenue, Germantown. This was the finding of Deputy Coroner Ward, announced yesterday after he had made an investigation of the case.

The parents of the baby said that it made no outcry, and the physician whom they called, Dr. W. T. Reed, of 3768 North Eighteenth street, said that its death undoubtedly was accidental.

BONUSES PLAYED IN XMAS SERMON

Priest Says They Wouldn't Be Necessary If Honest Wages Were Paid.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The Rev. Father John F. O'Rourke, in his Christmas sermon at St. Patrick's Cathedral, flayed employers for giving bonuses to their men in lieu of "honest wages." He declared it would not have been necessary to make these bonuses if proper pay had been given to the workers.

He said: "Oh, they're paying